

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/645,599

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 have been examined. Claims 10 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-9 and 12-14 are allowed.

Preliminary Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings submitted November 8, 2000, are approved.

Further, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the previous restriction requirement of claims 12-14 is withdrawn, and that claims 12-14 are hereby rejoined to the present Application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner maintains that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the term “whole surface”. In addition, the Examiner maintains that it is not clear where the claimed zinc plate coat is located on the structure.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 10 and 11, and submits that such amendments overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection.

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Allowable Subject Matter

As stated previously, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-9 and 12-14 are allowed.

Newly Added Claims

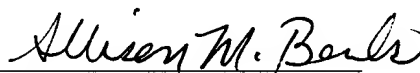
Applicant has added claims 15 and 16 to provide more varied protection for the present invention.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 20, 2003